

Message Text

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45

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IO-13

RSR-01 /104 W

----- 007006

R 201503 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 276

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

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E. O.11652: N/ A

TAGS: OVIP PFOR SW US

SUBJECT: DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE TAKES CREDIT FOR DISCOURAGING

DR. KISSINGER FROM ATTENDING BILDERBERG CONFERENCE

SUMMARY: " SECRET" LETTER WRITING CAMPAIGN AIMED AT
PERSUADING DR. KISSINGER NOT TO ATTEND BILDERBERG
CONFERENCE HERE IN EARLY MAY REVEALED BY SECRETARY
LARSSON OF RIGHT- WING DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE. WHILE MOST
POLITICAL OBSERVERS ARE TREATING THE STORY AS A " STORM
IN A WATER GLASS," OTHERS SEEN QUESTION AS SERIOUS
MATTER WHICH SHOULD BE FULLY AIRED. END SUMMARY.

1. " DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE " SECRETARY ANDERS LARSSON
JUNE 18 WROTE A LETTER TO SVENSKA DAGBLADET (MODERATE)
CLAIMING THAT HIS ORGANIZATION HELPED PERSUADE DR.
KISSINGER NOT TO ATTEND STOCKHOLM FOR BILDERBERG
CONFERENCE LAST MONTH. LARSSON SAID DA AND THE AFFILIATED
SWEDEN- AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION HAD ORGANIZED A
" SECRET" LETTER WRITING CAMPAIGN WHICH HAD RESULTED IN
A " FLOOD" OF LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS TO US AUTHORITIES
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FROM " PROMINENT SWEDISH PERSONALITIES" WHO ARGUED THAT A KISSINGER VISIT TO SWEDEN " WOULD BE EXPLOITED BY THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND MR. PALME FOR DOMESTIC POLICY PURPOSES" AND THAT THE " INTERNATIONAL PRESTIGE OF DR. KISSINGER WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE REELECTION OF THE PALME GOVERNMENT" WHICH WOULD NOT BE IN THE " LONG- RANGE DEVELOPMENT OF FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN USA AND SWEDEN." LARSSON ALSO CLAIMED THAT DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE HAD A MAJOR ROLE IN ORGANIZING " HARD HAT" DEMONSTRATIONS DURING PALME' S 1970 VISIT TO US.

2. STORY HAS RECEIVED FAIR AMOUNT OF ATTENTION IN MASS MEDIA. EDITORIAL CARTOON IN SVENSKA DAGBLADET (MODERATE) PROTRAYED STORY AS A " STORM IN A WATER GLASS" AND AFTONBLADEG (SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC) POINTED OUT THAT AMERICANS ARE USED TO SUCH CAMPAIGNS AND TEND TO BE SKEPTICAL ABOUT THEM. ON OTHER HAND INFLUENTIAL ARBETET (SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AND CLOSER TO GOVERNMENT THAN AFTONBLADET) MAY BE TRYING TO MAKE POLITICAL CAPITAL OUT OF ISSUE WITH A JUNE 20 EDITORIAL DEMAND THAT THOSE WHO WROTE LETTERS SPEAK OUT AND THAT QUESTION BE FULLY AIRED.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY IS FAMILIAR WITH LARSSON AND DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE. GROUP, UNFORTUNATELY, FINDS ITSELF RATHER ISOLATED ON SWEDISH RIGHT WING. SWEDEN- AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION
(NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH OLDER SOCIETIES WITH SIMILAR NAMES) WAS FOUNDED TWO YEARS AGO IN AN ATTEMPT TO ATTRACT YOUNG PEOPLE TO A PRO- AMERICAN ORGANIZATION AS A COUNTER WEIGHT TO THE LARGE LEFTIST SWEDISH UNITED FNL GROUPS (SEE STOCKHOLM 1150).

4. EMBASSY SAW EVIDENCE THAT CAMPAIGN LARSSON DESCRIBES WAS UNDERWAY IN LATE APRIL (A LETTER TO PRESIDENT WAS FORWARDED ROUTINELY BY THE DEPARTMENT). WHILE WE ARE IN NO POSITION TO JUDGE THE IMPACT OF THE CAMPAIGN IN THE US, IT SEEMS OBVIOUS THAT LARSSON IS CONSIDERABLY EXAGGERATING ITS ACCOMPLISHMENTS. EPISODE CAN BE SEEN AS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF ATTEMPTS BY FORCES TO LEFT AND RIGHT TO DRAW ISSUE OF DETERIORATED US- SWEDISH RELATIONS INTO SWEDISH ELECTION CAMPAIGN. OLSEN
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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
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TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, SW, US
To: EUR
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO COPENHAGEN
HELSINKI
OSLO
REYKJAVIK
Type: TE
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